IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended): A zinc can for battery anode having a covered bottom and cylindrical shape, and

made from a metallic composition comprising:

98.7 percent by mass to 99.8 percent by mass of zinc,

0.01 percent by mass or more and 0.7 percent by mass or less of bismuth,

1 ppm or less of antimony,

70 ppm or less of lead, and

20 ppm or less of cadmium;

wherein said zinc can has a metal structure in a cross section of said can wall being cut in the direction of height and thickness which consists of crystals having an average grain diameter of 8 μm or more and 25 μm or less as measured on a projected image of said crystals on a horizontal line in a thick direction of the can which average grain diameter is computed out;

wherein said zinc can is formed by pressing at a temperature in the range of 120-180°C; and

wherein the crystals have an O/I ratio ranging from 1.0 to 1.4, where O represents an average grain diameter of the crystals existing vertically epitaxial to the height direction on a cross section being cut in the height and the thickness direction in a range of 200 μm from the outer surface of the can wall and I represents the average grain diameter of the crystals existing in a cross section within 200μm from the inner surface, being said diameters measured on a projected image of the crystals on a horizontal line in the thickness direction, which average value for O and I being computed out.

2. (Previously Presented): The zinc can for battery anode according to claim 1, wherein the metallic composition further comprises from 0.0003 to 0.003 percent by mass of magnesium in addition.

3.-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended): The zinc can of claim 1, wherein said crystals have an O/I ratio ranging from 1.0 to 1.4, where O represents an average grain diameter of the crystals existing vertically epitaxial to the height direction on a cross section being cut in the height and the thickness direction in a range of 200 μm from the outer surface of the can wall and I represents the average grain diameter of the crystals existing in a cross section within 200μm from the inner surface, being said diameters measured on a projected image of the crystals on a horizontal line in the thickness direction, which average value for O and I being computed out; wherein said metallic composition further comprises 0.001 percent to 0.05 percent by mass of at least one element selected from the group consisting of zirconium and indium.

9. (Previously Presented): The zinc can of claim 1, wherein said metallic composition further comprises 0.001 percent to 0.05 percent by mass of at least one element selected from the group consisting of zirconium, indium and aluminum.

10. (Previously Presented): The zinc can of claim 9, further comprising from 0.0003 percent by mass to 0.003 percent by mass of magnesium.

11. (Previously Presented): The zinc can of claim 9, further comprising more than or equal to 0.001 percent by mass and less than or equal to 0.05% by mass of at least one element selected from the group consisting of strontium and barium.

12. (Previously Presented): The zinc can of claim 1, which is produced by a process comprising deep-drawing of said metallic composition within the temperature range of 120-180°C.

13. (Previously Presented): A zinc can for battery anode having a covered bottom and cylindrical shape, and made from a metallic composition consisting essentially of:

98.7 percent by mass to 99.8 percent by mass of zinc,

0.01 percent by mass or more and 0.7 percent by mass or less of bismuth,

1 ppm or less of antimony,

70 ppm or less of lead, and

20 ppm or less of cadmium;

wherein the cross-sectional metal structure of the can wall consists of crystals having an average grain diameter ranging from 8 μm to 25 μm;

wherein said average grain diameter may be determined from a cut in the direction of height and thickness and measured on a projected image of the crystals on a horizontal line in a thick direction of the can which average grain diameter is computed out;

wherein the crystals have an O/I ratio ranging from 1.0 to 1.4;

where O represents an average grain diameter of the crystals existing vertically epitaxial to the height direction on a cross section of the can cut in the height and the thickness direction in a range of 200 μm from the outer surface of the can wall, and

where I represents the average grain diameter of the crystals existing in a cross section within 200μm from the inner surface, being said diameters measured on a projected image of the crystals on a horizontal line in the thickness direction, which average value for O and I being computed out; and

wherein said zinc can is formed by pressing within the temperature range of 120-180°C.

14.-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented): A battery comprising:

the zinc can of claim 1 as an anode; and

a cathode.

18. (Previously Presented): The battery of claim 17 that is a manganese dry battery.

19. (Previously Presented): The battery of claim 18, wherein the cathode comprises at least one material selected from the group consisting of natural manganese dioxide and electrolytic manganese dioxide.